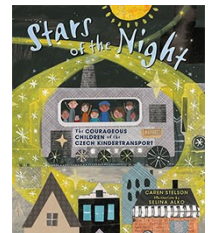


Upcoming Sunday Programs (10:15 to 11:30 am)

October 6 – Stars of the Night – the Nicholas Winton Story

Caren Stelson, author of *Stars Of The Night: The Courageous Children of the Czech Kindertransport*, will present a book concert with professional violinist Judith Eisner. Judith wrote the original Klezmer music to go along with Caren's reading. The emotions of the music add to the emotions of the story itself. The Nicholas Winton story may be one of the few hopeful stories emerging from the Holocaust, but it does speak to that dark period. Children nine, ten or older as well as adults will know and understand the importance of this story. For younger children, parents will want to use their discretion. She will autograph *and sell books. Proceeds will go to "Save the Children" We will have a special container for additional contributions to "Save the Children"*



Pilgrim House at HopeFest

October 13 – Alexandra House

Alexandra House addresses abuse victims with a safe place to stay and emotional assistance. Amanda Fulk is Community Engagement Coordinator. Pilgrim House has been a long time contributor to Alexandra House. The big fundraiser for Alexandra House is HopeFest which was held September 28th leading into October, which is Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

October 20 – On Being Human – Rev Leslie Mills

Rev. Leslie Mills is returning to Pilgrim House for another sermon series. More details will follow.



October 27 – United Church of Christ

The Shared Values of United Church of Christ and Unitarian Universalism – The UUA has asked local congregations to find out about United Church of Christ and where we might work together on social issues. We are two groups with shared values. They proclaim to be – “an open and affirming organization open to all regardless of gender, race, skin color, martial status, class, national origin, age, physical condition, mental ability and sexual orientation”. But they are also devoted to Jesus Christ, either as “Lord and Savior,” “Pioneer and prefecture of faith,” or as “teacher and guide”. Rev. T. Michael Rock is the Director of Contextual Studies and Spiritual Direction – Adjunct Faculty for Spiritual Formation and Contextual Education. He teaches at United Theological Seminary.



November 3 – Plastic Recycling

We are hearing that plastic recycling is not worth the effort. We seek to learn the real facts from our presenter Mariah Quick – Health Educator Environmental Health – Health and Wellness Service Team of Ramsey County. As an environmental health educator, Mariah works directly with volunteers in the community through instructional training programs on waste management systems, recycling and environmental justice.



CALENDAR

Thursday, October 3, 7:00pm – Great Decisions via Zoom – NATO's Future. All are welcome. Contact Al Potter. See below.

Saturday, October 5, 5:30pm – MWUUC Coffee House, 5:30 potluck, 6:30 hybrid Coffee House at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. To be on the list for Coffee House, contact Chad Synder.

Sunday, October 13, 12:00pm – Sunday Stories at Pilgrim House with presenter Lollie Jensen. All are welcome. Contact Mary Eskelson.

Monday, October 14, 7:00pm – Pilgrim House board meeting via Zoom. Everyone is welcome. Contact Marcie Jefferys.

Thursday, October 17, 1:00pm – Congregational Care meets at Pilgrim House. Contact Nancy Olson.

Wednesday, October 23, 12:30pm – Novel exchange book club meets at a local library. The book is *North Woods* by Daniel Mason. Contact Mary Carlson.

Thursday, October 24, 1:30pm – Book Club meets at Harlene Hagen's. The book is *Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

SOCIAL ACTION

Winter Coat Drive collections are here at PH until October 13. Distribution is October 19 at Christ the King Church. This is a part of the Community Social Service program PH is a part.

Please bring WINTER WEIGHT coats/jackets for all ages, especially for schoolchildren

(Sizes 5-14)

Also accepted are: Boots, Snowpants, gloves and mittens (heavy duty adult sizes are needed), and NEW hats and caps.

Consider shopping at consignment stores or Goodwill for your donation if your closet doesn't have one to give.

Ralph Reeder Food Shelf

We will continue collecting cash and checks on Soup Sunday. PLEASE NO canned or dry foods, because the Food Bank purchases food at a lower price and select the most needed foods for their clients.

UU'S AND CLIMATE JUSTICE

The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) is spearheading a nation-wide effort to mobilize fellowships to work on climate justice. "Reimagine Together: From an Extractive Age to a New Era" provides a variety of resources and activities to support congregations individually and in collaboration with

others to learn more, improve their carbon footprints and advocate for broader change. The "revival" is planned to launch in late September, but the materials and recorded videos will be available all year for congregations to use when they are able.

There already is a good deal of interest in and support for climate justice at Pilgrim House. In addition to solar panels, sustainable gardening practices, and limited use of disposable products, a well-attended book discussion last spring (*Saving Us*, confirmed the importance of this issue to our fellowship).

If you are interested in working on climate justice through Pilgrim House and exploring the tools and resources available through the UUA, please contact Marcie Jefferys, or sign up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall. It would be great if a group of people put their heads together to think about ways to use the UUA resources to help us continue moving forward on this critically important issue.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER

We were pleased to welcome Gary Averbek to Pilgrim House membership in September. Gary lives in Lino Lakes. He began visiting Pilgrim House this spring at the invitation of Wayne and Cynthia LeBlanc, and we are happy that he's now joining us as a member. We look forward to getting to know Gary better through our Sunday programs and activities. Be sure to introduce yourself!



SHARING CIRCLE – SOUL MATTERS

We could use a few more participants for the monthly Sharing



Circle that we're looking to launch this fall. This program from the UUA offers an opportunity to explore personal spirituality in a supportive group of other Pilgrim House adults.

Participants receive a monthly packet of spiritual readings, video and music links and questions to explore on their own. Then in a monthly gathering, participants share their insights and wonderings from the packet and their own life experiences. Sample packet available at Pilgrim House. Monthly themes for the packets here:

www.soulmatterssharingcircle.com/themes.html

For questions or sign-ups, contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

GREAT DECISIONS: NATO'S FUTURE

October 3, 7:00 pm, via zoom

Since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has come under increased scrutiny, not because NATO troops are involved in the conflict, but because of its role in relations between Russia and its neighbors. Will expanding membership in NATO protect countries, or will it further provoke Russia?

Our speaker is Norma Noonan who spoke with us about Russia in 2022:

Norma Noonan is Professor Emerita of Political Science and Leadership Studies at Augsburg College.

PH SUNDAY STORIES

Each person in our fellowship has a unique life history. This year, Pilgrim House members and friends will have the opportunity to share their life experiences with the group. Please consider telling your story. We are very interested in learning more about you and your journey.

Between September and May (approximately once a month), we gather after the Sunday program to hear a member/friend tell their story. Speakers will be able to share in a relaxed setting (and no recordings!). Timewise, it can be up to about half an hour.

You may be thinking, how do I begin? or what could I share? Here are suggested topics and questions others have used as a guideline for preparing a Sunday Story:

1. Your background. Tell us about where/when you grew up, your family background, and what influenced you as you grew up.
2. Your journey. Tell us about the path(s) your life has taken. What influenced you and what were some important events? What principles or values were meaningful or not a good fit? What drew you to Unitarianism and/or Pilgrim House?
3. Here and beyond. What is important in your life now? What has meaning for you as you look forward?

If you would like to sign up to tell your story the following dates are available. Please contact Mary Eskelson from the Connections Committee if you are interested or have more questions.

December 9, 2024,

January 12, 2025

February 9, 2025

March 9, 2025

April 13, 2025

May 11, 2025 (also Mother's Day)

Please let me know if you have additional questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Mary Eskelson (Connections Committee)

AN INVITATION TO: CONVERSATIONS AT THE EDGE OF HOPE: ON CLIMATE, COLLAPSE, AND CARE

Merging Waters Unitarian Universalist is pleased to invite you to “Conversations at the Edge of Hope” meeting on second Tuesdays beginning on October 8, from 6:30-8pm in Room 7 (lower level) at our new shared space with the United Church of Christ in New Brighton (1000 Long Lake Road, New Brighton, MN 55112 – right at the NW corner of I-694 and Long Lake Road). Led by MW member David Weiss, these conversations reflect Merging Waters’ commitment to bring our values of mindful interdependence, authentic curiosity, and courageous love to the very challenging topic of climate crisis. David has spent the past decade as a public theologian “writing into the whirlwind” of climate crisis and more, including the very real prospect of collapse. (Hard stuff!) Each month we’ll engage with David around a recent theme in his writing in conversations that promise to be provocative, insightful—and right at the edge of hope. Please join us on October 8 when David will introduce himself and his work and offer a glimpse of what the coming conversations will feature.

UPDATED COVID-SAFETY CRITERIA WE FOLLOW AS OF 9/11/2023:

- Masks are optional – Masks and hand sanitizer are available.
- Attendees are vaccinated, with exception for children too young to be vaccinated.
- Air purifiers will continue to be run in Program and Fellowship Rooms.
- Food and beverages are provided by our Hospitality Committee.

NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME HERE!

We enjoy the visitors and friends who join us for Sunday programs. If you’re interested in taking the next step of becoming a member of Pilgrim House, we’d would enjoy talking with you and sharing a short, live Power Point introduction – in person or via Zoom.

Kathy & Mel Aanerud, Membership Committee

membership@pilgrimhouseuua.org

